William Mankiller Quarters

By John H. Miller Jr.

As some of you have seen in other coin magazines a ten year old YN from Florida named Clark Davis found 14 William Mankiller quarters with an amazing obverse retained cud and reverse die crack. What most don't know is Clark is a CONECA member. I asked Clark to send me two of his finds and asked him a few questions. This is what I found out. an enthusiast of art as much as I am an enthusiast of numismatics, it is natural for me to think about how art and error coins can complement each other. This may seem like an odd match, but I've tried here to accomplish this goal.

The first thing Clark thought of when he saw the first error quarter was "That is a big die crack!" as he saw the reverse first. He then flipped it over and got excited seeing the Retained Cud. He started collecting in 2020 during the coin shortage. The family jokes that that the coin shortage started because him and his siblings started collecting coins.

His dad stops by the local bank and brings home coin rolls for all of the children to examine each week. That day he managed 30 rolls of quarters. Only one roll was full of William Mankiller quarters. The next day he returned and got six rolls full of William Mankillers. Clark amd his mom went to a dental appointment and tried at another bank to get more rolls, but found none.

His dad knows the tellers at their bank, and they know about the coin collecting Davis kids. From the tellers the family has received 40% silver halves, Eisenhower dollars, and a silver certificate. The tellers even saved them 12 rolls of wheat's that Clark managed to find two BIE crack cents.

After examining the coin's edge I noticed the reeding was strong and complete. This signals that the weakness of some of the design is from being struck through grease. There is a die crack that goes from the rim bellow the date through Washington lips, nose, and forehead up to the retained cud. On the reverse the later die stages have a large die crack.

Clark and his sibling continue looking through rolls and looks to be a long term collectors and members of CONECA. ■